

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant(s): Friddle, *et al.*

Prior Group Art Unit: 1652

Application No.: To be assigned

Prior Application Examiner:

Parent Application Serial Number 10/217,774

S. Swope

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Attorney Docket No.: LEX-0485-USA

Title: Novel Human Proteases and Polynucleotides  
Encoding the Same

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

The present Preliminary Amendment is being filed in conjunction with the concurrently filed Continuation Patent Application Request. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the following amendments prior to examination on the merits. The present amendments are fully supported by the specification and claims as originally filed, and do not in any way constitute new matter.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0892.